

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 EA-06 PM-03  
INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 IO-06 TRSE-00 EB-04  
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-----116380 290136Z /61

R 282008Z JUN 77  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4249  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USLO PEKING  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2070

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, CH, KN, KS, UR  
SUBJ: NEWLY-ARRIVED SOVIET SENIOR COUNSELOR KUDASHEV COMMENTS  
ON KOREA AND CHINA

1. SUMMARY: DURING INITIAL COURTESY CALL AT USUN, NEWLY-ARRIVES SOVIET SENIOR COUNSELOR KUDASHEV, A TATAR WHO IS A CHINESE-LANGUAGE OFFICER WITH PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN PEKING, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND PARTY ORGANS, SAID USSR SHARED US VIEW THAT DIALOGUE RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION DESIRABLE ON KOREAN QUESTION. KUDASHEV, WHO CONSIDERED KOREAN QUESTION "COMPLICATED", THOUGHT KIM IL SUNG FIRMLY IN POWER ALTHOUGH FACED WITH SOME POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. KUDASHEV BELIEVED THAT USSR HAS MORE TO OFFER OF IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC INTEREST TO NORTH KOREA THAN DOES CHINA. ON SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS. KUDASHEV SAID USSR HAD RETAINED IN PEKING TWO OR THREE LOWER-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNED WITH SINO-SOVIET BORDER TALKS BECAUSE MOSCOW HOPED TALKS WOULD RESUME IN  
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DUE COURSE AND DID NOT WANT TO BREAK OFF TALKS COMPLETELY.  
END SUMMARY.

2. BIOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND: AT HIS REQUEST, NEWLY-ARRIVED SOVIET SENIOR COUNSELOR RISHAT SHARAFUDINOVICH KUDASHEV PAID INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON MOSOFF CONCERNED WITH EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS JUNE 23. KUDASHEV, BORN 8/11/29 AND A TATAR,

SAID HE HAD SERVED DURING EARLY 1970'S IN PEKING BEFORE RETURNING TO MOSCOW AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. EARLIER HE HAD WORKED IN CPSU ORGANS. KUDASHEV ARRIVED IN NEW YORK ON MAY 22. HIS WIFE, TAMARA ABDULLOVNA, IS WITH HIM, BUT THEIR TWO SONS, ONE ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE AND AN ENGINEER AND ANOTHER STILL IN SCHOOL, ARE IN USSR. KUDASHEV GAVE A YORK AVENUE ADDRESS INDICATING THAT HE DOES NOT RESIDE IN A SOVIET MISSION COMPOUND. HE SAID HE REPLACED SENIOR COUNSELOR V.A. ZHARKOV WHO LEFT NEW YORK 1/2/77. KUDASHEV SAID HE MADE INSPECTION TRIPS FROM MOSCOW TO SOVIET EMBASSIES AND PEKING AND PYONGYANG LAST YEAR. HE SPEAKS CHINESE, ENGLISH (WELL), SOME FRENCH, AND SOME GERMAN. ON THIS CALL, HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THIRD SECRETARY ALEKSANDR N. RASTANIN, BORN IN VLADIVOSTOK 9/15/49. IN REQUESTING COURTESY CALL, KUDASHEV HAD NOT SAID RASTANIN WOULD ACCOMPANY HIM. RASTANIN IS ALSO A CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICER WITH SERVICE IN PEKING AND STUDY IN HONG KONG. HIS WIFE, NIKOLAYEVNA, AND YOUNG CHILD ARE WITH HIM IN NEW YORK, WHERE HE ARRIVED IN APRIL 1977. RASTANIN SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH.

3. KOREA: WHEN KOREA CAME UP, MIISOFF RECALLED US INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE TALKS BETWEEN PARTIES INCLUDING ROK WHICH ARE DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH KOREA AND THE MILITARY ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. MISOFF STRESSED THAT US SEEKS DIALOGUE RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION ON KOREA. KUDASHEV REPLIED THAT THE USSR ALSO FAVORS DIALOGUE RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION ON

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THIS ISSUE. HE AND RASTANIN CONSIDERED THE KOREAN QUESTION "COMPLICATED". WHEN ASKED ABOUT RUMORS LAST YEAR THAT KIM IL SUNG HAD DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS, KUDASHEV THOUGHT THAT KIM IL SUNG WAS IN A FIRM POSITION BUT THAT HE DID FACE CERTAIN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. KUDASHEV INDICATED, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT KIM IL SUNG'S SPEEDY ELEVATION OF HIS SON, KIM CHONG IL, HAD NOT GONE DOWN WELL WITH EVERYBODY. ADDITIONALLY, AN ENERGY SHORTAGE WAS HAMPERING NORTH KOREA'S INDUSTRY. KUDASHEV SAID THE CHINESE IN NORTH KOREA REFRAINED FROM ATTACKING THE RUSSIANS KNOWING THAT THIS WOULD DISPLEASE THE NORTH KOREANS. IN THIS REGARD, KUDASHEV MADE CLEAR HIS VIEW THAT THE USSR HAS MORE TO OFFER NORTH KOREA OF IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC INTEREST THAN DOES CHINA. HE MENTIONED SOVIET SALE AND CONSTRUCTION OF NORTH KOREA'S PRINCIPAL ROLLING MILL AND PETROCHEMICAL PLANT. HE ADDED, THOUGH, THAT MOSCOW COULD NOT ACCEDE TO PYONGYANG'S REQUESTS FOR A SUPPLY OF COST-FREE PETROLEUM. KUDASHEV RUBBED THE TIPS OF THE FINGERS OF HIS RIGHT HAND AND THE THUMB TOGETHER AND STRESSED THAT THE USSR COULD NOT FOREGO PAYMENT FOR OIL. HE NOTED TOO THAT NORTH KOREA'S ECONOMY WAS ORGANIZED ALONG SOVIET RATHER THAN CHINESE LINES. KUDASHEV SAID THAT WHEN HE INSPECTED SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN

NORTH KOREA LAST YEAR, HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH KOREA'S ECONOMY. HE POINTED OUT, THOUGH, THAT NORTH KOREA'S NEED TO IMPORT ENERGY SOURCES WAS A WEAK POINT IN ITS ECONOMY.

4. CHINA: KUDASHEV CONSIDERED THAT THE CHINESE HAD BEEN UNDERGOING A PERIOD OF POLITICAL CONSOLIDATION FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF CHAIRMAN MAO. HE DESCRIBED HIS INSPECTION TRIP TO CHINA LAST YEAR AND SAID THAT HE COULD OBSERVE LITTLE ECONOMIC ADVANCE SINCE HIS DEPARTURE FROM PEKING IN 1973. HE RECOGNIZED THE SEVERITY OF CHINA'S EARTHQUAKE DISASTER BUT COULD NOT ATTRIBUTE LACK OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS TO THIS ALONE. ON SINO-SOVIET BORDER TALKS, HE SAID THAT MOSCOW HOPED FOR RESUMPTION IN DUE COURSE. MOSCOW, THEREFORE, HAD  
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LEFT TWO OR THREE LOWER-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNED WITH THE BORDER TALKS IN PEKING IN ORDER TO AVOID A TOTAL BREAK IN THE TALKS.

5. ASIA SOCIETY BENEFIT: KUDASHEV HAD WITH HIM A NOTICE OF THE ASIA SOCIETY'S ANNIVERSARY BENEFIT DINNER ON JUNE 29, AT WHICH SECRETARY VANCE IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK. KUDASHEV EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ATTENDING, PROVIDED THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH WAS NOT "SECRET". KUDASHEV ALSO NOTED THE \$150 PER PLATE CHARGE FOR THE BENEFIT. MISOFF PROMISED TO CHECK WHETHER SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE WELCOME AT DINNER. SUBSEQUENTLY, MISOFF LEARNED FROM ASIA SOCIETY OFFICIAL SPIVACK THAT SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE MOST WELCOME AT DINNER BUT THAT SOCIETY COULD NOT WAIVE CHARGE FOR PLATE AT BENEFIT. WHEN MISOFF CONVEYED THIS BY TELEPHONE TO KUDASHEV, HE REPLIED SIMPLY: "THANK YOU VERY MUCH."  
LEONARD

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009